Boat Smart-Boat Safe

Have Fun on the Water

The following information is provided

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Boat Smart-Boat Safe

Each Day the U.S. Coast Guard conducts an average 109 Search and Rescue Cases, saves 10 lives and assists 192 people in dist

- **7 out of 10 boating fatalities occur with the use of boats under 20 feet.**
- **The vast majority of boating accidents are caused by operator error and failing to keep a look out.**
- **More than 60% of boating fatalities result form capsizing, falling overboard, or flooding/swamping.**
- **The most common cause of death in a boating accident is drowning.**

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Know Before You Go

- Alcohol is a major factor in as much as a third of all recreational boating fatalities annually.
- On average, 9 out of 10 boating victims are male.
- Make a habit of listening to your local forecast the night before you go boating. The[illegible]t the most current forecast just before se[illegible]ut.

- Always have a way of receiving updated forecasts.

Boat Safe-Boat Smart

Safety Experts estimate that half of all drowning victims actually die from the effects of cold water, or hypothermia, and not from water fil[illegible]ngs.

- **Wear an approved life jacket. Some provide better insulation against the cold water than others.**

- **Attach a whistle to your [illegible]e jacket or clothes for use as a signal.**

- **Always tell a responsible person whe[illegible] when you are going and when you p[illegible] return.**

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A boat operator with a blood alcohol concentration above .10 is 10 times more likely to be killed in a boating accident than a boater with a blood alcohol concentration of zero.

- **Wait until you are off the water be consuming alcohol.**
- **Don’t allow a person who has consumed alcohol to operate a boat.**
- **Provide non-alcoholic beverages for boat operators and passengers.**

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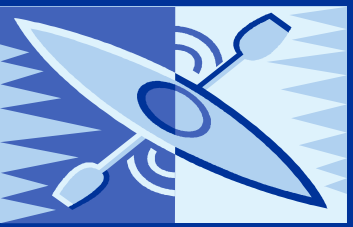
When it comes to life jackets, the law makes very specific requirements. Make sure you know and obey these laws-they could save your life.

Your are required by Federal regulations to have U.S. Coast Guard approved life jackets on your recreational boat of an appropriate size for each person. If your boat is 16 foot or longer (excluding canoes and kayaks) you must you must have a Throw Device (Type IV).



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Most drowning occur way out at sea, right? WRONG! Fact is, 9 out of 10 drowning occur in inland waters, most within a few feet of safety and most involve boats less than 20 feet in length.

- **Most drowning occur 10 feet or less from safety.**
- **Most drowning result from: 1) inability to swim, 2) effects of cold water, 3) alcohol**
- **Three best ways to prevent drowning while boating:**
- **1) learn to swim, 2) always wear your life jacket, 3) don't consume alcohol.**

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YOUR IN COMMAND

As a boat owner or operator you are responsible for your safety-and the safety of your passengers and other boaters.

Help prevent accidents, injuries, and deaths on the water by taking these simple steps.

Remember-You are in command!

Safety Information

For further information on Safety or Safety Related topics

please contact a member of the Garrison Safety office.

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Website: www.wainwright.army.mil/safety

For a copy of this pamphlet please contact Garrison Safety.